

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

November

2020

11-17-2020

Daily Eastern News: November 17, 2020

Eastern Illinois University

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Recommended Citation

Eastern Illinois University, "Daily Eastern News: November 17, 2020" (2020). *November*. 11.
https://thekeep.eiu.edu/den_2020_nov/11

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STUDENTS SHARE THOUGHTS

Eastern students share their reactions to the shift to online classes following Thanksgiving Break.

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EASTERN MOURNS OROZCO

The Eastern football community is mourning the loss of Director of Football Performance Joe Orozco.

PAGE 4

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Tuesday, November 17, 2020

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 105 | NO. 59

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

EST. 1915

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All classes will move to online after break

By Corryn Brock
News Editor | @coryn_brock

All classes at Eastern will transition to an online format for the remainder of the Fall semester following Thanksgiving Break.

The decision was made to attempt to slow the rising levels of COVID-19 transmission throughout Illinois.

This is only a call for the Fall semester and it has not been announced that classes will be in only an online format for the Spring semester.

Though classes will be online, university housing, dining centers, Booth Library, the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union and all student support offices will remain open and continue to follow Center for Diseases Control and Prevention, Illinois Department of Public Health and Eastern COVID-19 guidelines.

Students will be given the option to stay on campus following the break or stay home, however, because the campus will remain open no refunds will be given for tuition, fees or dining.

Those who have on-campus employment will still have the opportunity to work in their positions.

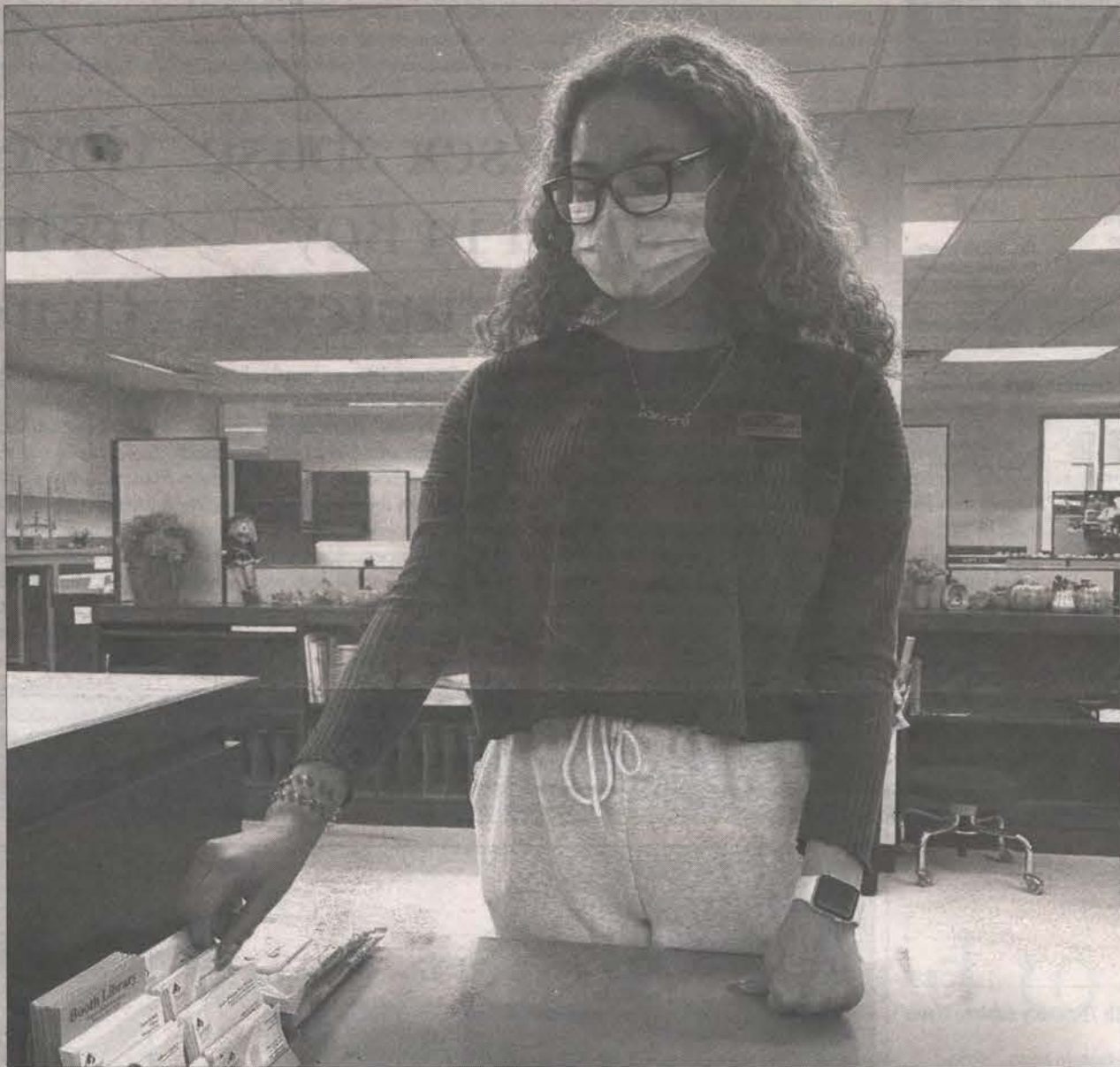
Students who choose to return to campus for the remainder of the semester should inform the Housing and Dining office via a link sent in an email from University President David Glassman.

Those who choose to not return to campus must mail their textbooks back to campus by Dec. 18 to not receive a late fee.

All students who are leaving campus for break should take home anything they need to complete

BREAK, page 3

Library shift



Alice Slattery, a freshman finance major, organizes her workspace at the Booth Library Monday night.

FEMI USIKALU | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COVID-19 testing scheduled for Tuesday

By Kyara Morales-Rodriguez
Staff Reporter | @DEN_news

On Tuesday, Nov. 17 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Eastern will be offering free COVID testing for students, faculty, staff, annuitants and members of the local community. Eastern is running this COVID testing event in partnership with the Illinois Department of Public Health.

The COVID testing site will be at the W Lot near the corner of Fourth Street and Roosevelt Drive, just west of Lawson Hall. Both drive-thru and walk-up options will be provided. To people who will be using the drive-thru option, it is important to know that vehicles will be directed to enter the site via Terrace Lane, south of Wesley United Methodist Church.

Though the drive-thru option is available, Eastern encourages people to use the walk-up options if at all possible. Since this event is open to the entire public, Eastern would like to reduce possible drive-thru congestion.

People attending the COVID testing site are strongly encouraged to pre-register for the event through a link available on Eastern's EIU Covid Hub webpage. Pre-registering on the website will help people getting tested receive their results faster.

Eastern instructs to enter "61920" for the ZIP code, choose "Covid-19 Screening" as appointment type, and select a time under "Tuesday November 17, 2020: Illinois Department of Public Health Eastern Illinois University Mobile Testing."

If one already has a MyChart account with OSF Health or IDPH, they can enter existing login information when pre-registering. If they do not have a MyChart account, they will be receiving an email with additional information about that.

If one does not have an email address or does not wish to create a MyChart account, they can call the IDPH results number (1-877-297-7208) for their results. People who are having trouble accessing results through MyChart are advised to contact the MyChart helpline (1-800-889-3931).

People attending the event are also asked to come prepared by bringing certain items to ensure the COVID testing runs smoothly. Eastern asks attendees to bring a photo ID, an ink pen, their local (school) address, an insurance card (if they have one) and a smartphone to access MyChart.

Eastern also asks attendees to wear masks, since Eastern's masking policy requires all individuals to appropriately wear clean cloth or disposable face



Ben Drake, a sophomore history teaching major, gets tested for COVID at Eastern's flu shot and COVID testing site on Oct. 14.

FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

masks on campus. Masks will not be provided, so people must bring their own.

After testing and receiving their results, students or employees who plan on traveling away from Charleston should take all their person-

al and academic materials with them just in case they need to isolate or quarantine in that location.

Kyara Morales-Rodriguez can be reached at 581-2812 or kmoralesrodriguez@eiu.edu.

Local weather

TUESDAY WEDNESDAY



Sunny
High: 45°
Low: 28°



Sunny
High: 51°
Low: 41°

THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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The Daily Eastern News is produced by the students of Eastern Illinois University. It is published daily Monday through Friday, in Charleston, Ill., during fall and spring semesters and online during the summer term except during university vacations or examinations. One copy per day is free to students and faculty. Additional copies can be obtained for 50 cents each in the Student Publications Office in Buzzard Hall.

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The Daily Eastern News
1802 Buzzard Hall
Eastern Illinois University
Charleston, IL 61920

STATE AND NATION

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

2nd virus vaccine shows striking success in US tests

A second experimental COVID-19 vaccine — this one from Moderna Inc. — yielded extraordinarily strong early results Monday, another badly needed dose of hope as the pandemic enters a terrible new phase.

Moderna said its vaccine appears to be 94.5% effective, according to preliminary data from an ongoing study. A week ago, competitor Pfizer Inc. announced its own vaccine

looked 90% effective — news that puts both companies on track to seek permission within weeks for emergency use in the U.S.

The results are "truly striking," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, the U.S. government's top infectious-diseases expert. "The vaccines that we're talking about, and vaccines to come, are really the light at the end of the tunnel."

A vaccine can't come fast enough, as virus cases topped 11 million in

the U.S. over the weekend — 1 million of them recorded in just the past week — and governors and mayors are ratcheting up restrictions ahead of Thanksgiving. The outbreak has killed more than 1.3 million people worldwide, over 246,000 of them in the U.S.

Stocks rallied on Wall Street and around the world on rising hopes that the global economy could start returning to normal in the com-

ing months. The Dow Jones Industrial Average gained more than 470 points, or 1.6%, to close at a record high of over 29,950. Moderna stock was up almost 10%.

Both vaccines require two shots, given several weeks apart. U.S. officials said they hope to have about 20 million Moderna doses and another 20 million of the vaccine made by Pfizer and its German partner BioNTech to use in late December.

About 90K sex abuse claims filed in Boy Scouts bankruptcy

NEW YORK (AP) — Close to 90,000 sexual abuse claims have been filed against the Boy Scouts of America as the Monday deadline arrived for submitting claims in the organization's bankruptcy case.

The number far exceeds the initial projections of lawyers across the United States who have been signing up clients since the Boy Scouts filed for bankruptcy protection in February in the face of hundreds of lawsuits alleging decades-old sex abuse by Scout leaders.

"We are devastated by the number of lives impacted by past abuse in Scouting and moved by the bravery of those who have come forward," the Boy Scouts said

in a statement. "We are heartbroken that we cannot undo their pain."

A few hours before the 5 p.m. EST deadline, the number of claims totaled 88,500, lawyers said.

Eventually, the proceedings in federal bankruptcy court will lead to the creation of a compensation fund to pay out settlements to abuse survivors whose claims are upheld.

The potential size of the fund is not yet known and will be the subject of complex negotiations. The national organization is expected to contribute a substantial portion of its assets, which include financial investments and real estate.

Governors ratchet up restrictions ahead of Thanksgiving holiday

From California to Pennsylvania, governors and mayors across the U.S. are ratcheting up COVID-19 restrictions amid the record-shattering resurgence of the virus that is all but certain to get worse because of holiday travel and family gatherings over Thanksgiving.

Leaders are closing businesses or curbing hours and other operations, and they are ordering or imploring people to stay home and keep their distance from others to help stem a rising tide of infections that threatens to overwhelm the health care system.

"I must again pull back the reins," New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy said Monday as

he restricted indoor gatherings to 10 people, down from 25. "It gives me no joy."

California Gov. Gavin Newsom announced he is pulling the "emergency brake" on efforts to reopen the economy, saying the state is experiencing the fastest growth in cases yet, and if left unchecked, it will lead to "catastrophic outcomes." The move closes many nonessential indoor businesses and requires the wearing of masks outside homes, with limited exceptions.

The tightening came as Moderna Inc. announced that its experimental coronavirus vaccine appears to be over 94% effective, based on early results. A week ago

TODAY'S
Campus Clue

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Students react to shift to online classes

By Corryn Brock, Heather Vosburgh and Kyara Morales-Rodriguez
News Editor and Staff Reporters | @DEN_news

Students say they have mixed feelings on the announcement that Eastern classes will be entirely online following Thanksgiving Break.

Noah McCammon, a sophomore political science major, said he isn't looking forward to transitioning to an online format but believes the university made a good decision.

"I think if a large portion of students decide to stay home after Thanksgiving break, it will give the university a nice chunk of time to do a deep clean. While it would definitely be beneficial for the school to go online, I selfishly wish it wasn't going online. I myself tend to do much better in classes when I am physically in the classes," McCammon said. "I'm glad the option to not return for the rest of the semester is pro-

vided, though." Grace Knapp, a sophomore psychology and criminology major, shared concerns about online classes.

"I knew that it was only a matter of time before the university was put online, I actually thought that it would be earlier than this. I am mostly worried about the classes that I originally had in person because I don't know how I will adjust to those being put online as well," Knapp said. "My statistics class will be especially hard to do online."

Juan Castillo, a graduate student studying nutrition and dietetics, said he wasn't surprised for the move online but is surprised there is a plan to continue in-person learning in the spring.

"I am not surprised the university decided to go online as the COVID numbers kept rising," Castillo said. "I am surprised to see the university is allowing students to continue in person learning for the spring semester since they haven't discussed any changes that they're will-

ing to make to prevent a situation like this again."

Many students appear to be in favor of coming back to campus despite classes moving online.

McCammon and Castillo said they plan to return to campus because of their jobs with the Housing and Dining Office.

Knapp says she hopes to return to the campus after the break.

"I am unsure at this point and will have to talk to my parents over break," Knapp said. "However, I would like to come back because I like being on campus."

Despite wanting to be on campus students also say they worry about students coming back to campus with COVID after spending time with family.

Knapp said she has concerns of students going home to COVID hotspots.

"I know that the students at EIU come from all across the country and are all most likely going home for break,"

Knapp said. "There are definitely some hotspots across the United States and especially in Chicago, which is where a lot of EIU students are from and it worries me that many students will bring COVID back to campus and put other students in danger."

Castillo shared those concerns.

"I am concerned with students going home and potentially coming in contact with a person who is positive with COVID and infecting their families and potentially infecting other students once they come back to campus," Castillo said.

Student also have concerns about not being refunded if they decided to not return to campus and because of the move online.

"I don't think it's fair. I think that some students should be allowed to stay home and get a refund, but it seems that the school is trying to suck as much money out of us as they possibly can. They are making students pick between

safety and affordability and that just isn't right," Knapp said. "We shouldn't have to pay for housing and dining for three weeks if we are not going to be on campus to utilize those resources."

Castillo said he understands that the university had a tough decision to make but felt it was made thoughtfully.

"I understand that EIU cannot refund the students their money this time because if the school were to lose money again it would put it in a tough position to remain open and in debt. If the university goes into debt then it will have to cut programs like it's done in the past to remain open," Castillo said. "I also like the fact that the university is giving students the option to return and to get their money's worth by allowing them to utilize their dorms the dining centers and other resources around campus."

Corryn Brock, Heather Vosburgh and Kyara Morales-Rodriguez can be reached at 581-2812 or at dennews-

» BREAK

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the semester remotely like personal computers, laptops, books, necessary notes, personal items or important medication.

Students are asked to strictly adhere to the CDC and the IDPH recommendations for limiting travel and social gatherings while home.

Credit / No Credit Grade Option Available

Eastern will once again offer a credit /

no credit grade option for students as they offered last year.

Student will have the option to change courses with a letter grade of "A," "B" or "C" to credit. Letter grades of "D" or "F" will count as no credit.

According to an email sent by Provost Jay Gatrell the reason for allowing the option is because "the University recognizes that in some cases students may need additional course grade options for the Fall 2020 semester. Indeed, the COVID-19 crisis itself has not only prompted aca-

demical challenges, but also has changed everyday life for students and faculty alike. To respond to these significant disruptions and the transition from face-to-face to remote learning, undergraduate students may petition the Registrar to change grade type in self-selected courses."

The deadline to request the change is Dec. 8.

Students should seek advising from their academic advisor for guidance on how they should proceed in regard to changing their grade type.

There is no limit on how many courses can be changed to a credit / no credit this semester.

The options are exceptions to the Undergraduate Catalog can be applied to meet degree, major and general education requirements.

Spring Break cancelled

The traditional set up for Spring Break has also been cancelled.

The break, which was originally a

5-day long break in classes will now be broken up throughout the semester as a single day off approximately every three weeks.

The university is calling the new set-up "personal wellness days." The dates have not been selected yet for when days will occur.

No required academic activity will occur on the selected days.

Corryn Brock can be reached at 581-2812 or at cebrock@eiu.edu.

OPINIONS

The Daily Eastern News
WWW.DAILYEASTERNNEWS.COM
Tuesday, 11.17.2020

STAFF EDITORIAL

We hope safety is everybody's top priority

With the announcement Monday that Eastern will be shifting to online-only classes following Thanksgiving Break and cancelling Spring Break next semester, we at The Daily Eastern News hope that COVID-19 safety will be everyone's top priority.

For everyone that is returning home for Thanksgiving, we urge that they still follow protocols to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

Many families will be gathering in large groups to celebrate Thanksgiving, but before they do, they should consider the possible repercussions.

COVID-19 cases are surging all over the country, and Thanksgiving gatherings will almost certainly cause the spike to continue.

As for Spring Break being canceled, we are sure that many students are upset. They likely were looking forward to having fun or possibly traveling, but the likeli-

hood that it will be safe to do that in the spring is low.

Looking at the big picture, missing out on Spring Break next year is really not that bad.

It is much better to not catch or spread COVID-19, possibly bringing it back to campus from all over the country.

This pandemic is far from over, and we have to keep making sacrifices to make sure it does not get even worse.

None of us thought that this virus would take up so much of our lives when it first began, but it is something that we all should be used to by now, unfortunately.

Many universities have made these decisions months ago, and Eastern waiting until the last minute to do the same surely adds stress to student's lives.

But it is better late than never, and we hope that all students try to stay safe in the coming months.

COLUMN

I feel embarrassed to be a Panther right now

I am disappointed. I am disappointed in President Glassman and the administration. I am embarrassed over the fact that President Glassman decided to go online after Thanksgiving break- the week before we go on break.

Other Illinois state universities, even private universities, had a set plan in the summer knowing they will go online after break. Two weeks ago, our region went into Tier 1 COVID-19 mitigation and we received an email from President Glassman regarding the situation.

Yet President Glassman said in the email, "For that reason, EIU will continue to follow its existing academic calendar, and classes will continue to meet as scheduled on campus. The modality of instruction for course sections remains unchanged for all modes including face-to-face, hybrid, and online course delivery."

President Glassman, now you want to tell us that we are going online? You want to tell us Eastern is doing this because of IDPH and



Karina Delgado

CDC guidelines? Seriously? Eastern can post it on social media and get all the positive reactions they can get. Just know that students, the students who make up this school, are extremely angry and upset. I am sure the faculty is as upset as we are.

I get it Glassman, you didn't want to lose incoming students, that's why you had an ignorant plan in the first place. I am glad to see we are numbers to you and your administration. To the Eastern Illinois University administration, I cannot believe you all went along with this plan.

You all knew what was going to

happen. We are in a global pandemic, why did you all decide to think this was a good plan?

Do you not care about your students, faculty, and staff? Do you not understand the amount of stress this puts on people as they have to go from in-person to online? Do you not understand the impact this is going to have on those with mental illness and disabilities?

So many universities around us had a set plan since the summer. About a month ago, several universities decided to cancel spring break because they are aware of the reality we live in. Yet

Glassman, you decided to not do anything until now. Get it together Old Main. Several students are embarrassed and disappointed to be Panthers right now. We are glad to know our university "cares."

Karina Delgado is a senior secondary English education major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or kmdelgado@eiu.edu.

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Eastern football mourns Orozco

By Adam Tumino
Editor-in-Chief | @adam_tumino

The Eastern football community joined many others in mourning Monday for Eastern Director of Football Performance Joe Orozco, who died over the weekend at the age of 30.

"Coach Orozco was such a vibrant member of our athletic staff and football program," Eastern Athletic Director Tom Michael said in a statement Monday. "It was a shock to the system to hear the news that a young person that was so full of life and energy had passed away. He was someone that brought such passion for his work, our players and the EIU football program every day. His presence will truly be missed."

Orozco was one of the first hires made by head coach Adam Cushing when he took over the football program in December 2018.

Orozco worked alongside Cushing at Northwestern as well, where he served as an intern, graduate assistant and assistant coach.

"I'm heartbroken and cannot find the words to express my feelings about Joe," Cushing said in a statement. "He exuded passion and enthusiasm for the young men he served every minute of every day. Everyone in our program is fortunate for every second being influenced by him, me included. Our entire program, and lives, will have an enormous void which will never be filled, but we will honor Joe the way I know he wants: together, as a family, with extreme passion for our opportunity each day."

Northwestern head coach Pat Fitzgerald also made a statement on Orozco's death.

"Our entire Wildcats family is dev-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Eastern Director of Football Performance Joe Orozco celebrates with defensive back Mark Williams during a game against Tennessee Tech on Sept. 28, 2019.

"He was someone that brought such passion for his work, our players and the EIU football program every day. His presence will truly be missed."

-Tom Michael

"I'm heartbroken and cannot find the words to express my feelings about Joe. He exuded passion and enthusiasm for the young men he served every minute of every day."

-Adam Cushing

astated to learn of the passing of former football performance coach Joe Orozco," Fitzgerald said. "Aside from being a rising star in our game, Joe was a be-

loved colleague with boundless energy, and the type of person whose incredible attitude at any hour of the day picked up those around him."

Members of the current Eastern football team and coaching staff also shared their thoughts on Orozco, as did other members of the Eastern athletic

department.

Eastern wide receiver Matt Reyna took to Twitter Monday, as did many of his teammates.

"Lost for words, Rest In Peace to one of the most passionate and caring people I've ever met. Your energy will forever live through us," Reyna tweeted.

"A great coach, a great man, and a great soul," offensive lineman Ben Solomon tweeted. "You will be missed Coach O. Love and prayers to you and your family."

Eastern wide receivers coach and recruiting coordinator Mark Philmore II tweeted as well, quoting one of Orozco's favorite phrases.

"If you're JUICELESS, you're USELESS' is all that needs to be said. You will be deeply missed dear friend," Philmore said.

The thoughts pouring in on social media went beyond the football community. Eastern basketball player Josiah Wallace added his thoughts, as did Eastern softball head coach Tara Archibald.

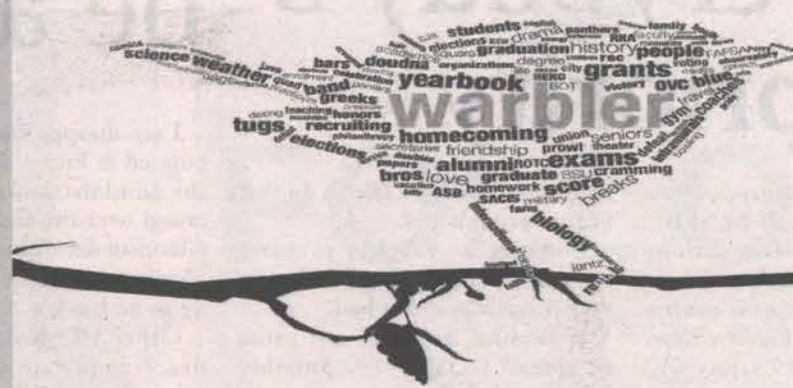
"Prayers. Heart breaking news. Tough day for the whole EIU family," Wallace tweeted.

"Heartbroken for @EIUPantherFB. I'll never forget how impressed I was w/ Coach Joe's energy, intensity & passion on the sideline at my 1st EIU football game," Archibald tweeted. "I later realized, he brought that same gameday energy in everything he did. Such an inspiration."

Coles County Coroner Ed Schniers said that an autopsy is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. tomorrow. He said he currently believes that the cause of death is attributed to natural causes.

Adam Tumino can be reached at 581-2812 or ajtumino@eiu.edu.

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